12.00 NOON

Scarcity of water

†856.DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI:

SHRI RAM JETHMALANI:

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has taken notice of the report published by world Economic Forum on water;

(b) if so, whether it has sounded of serious warning about scarcity of water;

(c) if so, what is Government's reaction thereto;

(d) whether it is also a fact that shortage in country's availability of water has been estimated during the past one decade; and

(e) if so, the extent of this shortage and average annual availability of water at present in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JAY PRAKASH NARAYAN YADAV): (a) to (c) The World Economic Forum has drafted a Report titled " The Bubble is Close to Bursting: A Forecast of the Main Economic and Geopolitical Water Issues Likely to Arise in the World during the Next Two Decades" for discussion at the Forum Annual Meeting 2009. Various challenges related to water including the aspects of scarcity of water in respect of Food and Agriculture, Energy, Trade, National Economic Security, Cities, People without Water and Sanitation, Global Business and The Financial Sector have been highlighted and action point identified in the draft Report. Most of the issues are duly reflected in the National Water Policy and several initiatives have also been taken by respective State Governments and Government of India.

(d) and (e) The availability of the water in the country has been assessed from time to time. The overall annual water availability of India has been assessed as about 1869 Billion Cubic Meter (BCM). No decline in the overall annual water availability has been observed in the country.

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(MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN *in the Chair*)

PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

Reports and Accounts (2007-08) of the Water and Power Consultancy Services (India) Limited, New Delhi and Related Papers

जल **संसाधन मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री जय प्रकाश नारायण यादव)**: महोदय, मैं निम्नलिखित पत्र सभा पटल पर रखता हूं:-

I. A copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following papers, under sub-section (1) of Section 619A of the Companies Act, 1956:

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(a) Thirty-ninth Annual Report and Accounts of the Water and Power Consultancy Services (India) Limited, formerly known as WAPCOS, New Delhi, for the year 2007-2008, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts and the comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India thereon.

(b) Statement by Government accepting the above Report.

II. Statement (in English and Hindi) giving reasons for the delay in laying the papers mentioned at (I) above. [Placed in Library. *See* No. L.T. 10719/09]

Reports and Accounts of various Hotel Management Institutes, Akademies, Cultural Institutes and Science Museums (2006-07, 2007-08) and Related Papers

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND MINISTER OF CULTURE (SHRIMATI AMBIKA SON): Sir, I beg to lay on the Table, a copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following papers:

(i) (a) Annual Report and Accounts of the National Council for Hotel Management and Catering Technology (NCHMCT), NOIDA, for the year 2007-2008.

(b) Review by Government on the working of the above Council. [Placed in Library. *See* No. L.T. 10773/09]

(ii) (a) Annual Report and Accounts of the National Council for Hotel Management and Catering Technology and Applied Nutrition (NCHMCT), Srinagar, for the year 2007-2008.

(b) Review by Government on the working of the above Society. [Placed in Library. *See* No. L.T. 10589/09]

(iii) (a) Annual Report and Accounts of the Lalit Kala Akademi, New Delhi, for the year 2007-2008, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts.

(b) Review by Government on the working of the above Akademi.

(c) Statement giving reasons for the delay in laying the papers mentioned at (a) above. [Placed in Library. *See* No. L.T. 10777/09]

(iv) (a) Annual Report and Accounts of the West Zone Cultural Centre (WZCC), Udaipur, for the year 2007-2008, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts.

(b) Review by Government on the working of the above Centre.

(c) Statement giving reasons for the delay in laying the papers mentioned at (a) above. [Placed in Library. *See* No. L.T. 10776/09]

(v) (a) Annual Report and Accounts of the South Central Zone Cultural Centre (SCZCC), Nagpur, for the year 2007-2008, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts.

(b) Review by Government on the working of the above Centre.